

O Christmas Tree

The German lyrics of this carol ("O Tannenbaum") refer not to Christmas, but to the fir tree's evergreen quality as a symbol of faithfulness and constancy. The composite time signature used in this arrangement may remind you of the "Mission: Impossible" theme song.
Helpful tip: Use the constancy of the eighth notes to guide you as you get the hang of the rhythm.

With joyful energy

Music by Melchior Franck
arr. Anne Britt

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and features a complex, rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents, starting with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The lower staff is in bass clef and plays a simpler eighth-note accompaniment, marked *no ped.* The time signature is a composite of 6/8 and 2/4.

The second system of music begins at measure 5. The upper staff continues with eighth-note patterns, marked *f* and *mf*. The lower staff has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Performance instructions include *poco rit.*, *mf*, and *a tempo*. The system concludes with the instruction *ped. ad lib*.

The third system of music starts at measure 9. The upper staff features a melodic line with some rests, while the lower staff continues with the eighth-note accompaniment. The time signature remains the same composite 6/8+2/4.

The fourth system of music begins at measure 13. The upper staff has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The lower staff continues with the eighth-note accompaniment. The time signature changes to 3/4 for the final two measures of the system.

17 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

3 *mf* $6+2/4$ $8+2/4$

21

25

f $8vb$

29

($8vb$)

33

($8vb$)

36

mp *rit.*

Slightly slower, peacefully

40

44

48

$\text{♪} = \text{♪}$

52

$\text{♪} = \text{♪}$